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1975/07/03

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2-2-84

(2 parts)

PERSONS/ENTITIES:FITZGERALD, DESMOND
HARVEY, WILLIAM
DONOVAN, JAMES
GOTTLIEB, SIDNEY
HALPERN, SAMMcMANUS, Geo.
HELMS, Rich.
BAY OF PIGSDATES:January 1963
(approx-
imately)CATEGORIES:

CASTRO ✓

and 1 of 2

OCCURRENCE:

ED

DESMOND FITZGERALD took over the Cuba Task Force (Task Force W) from WILLIAM HARVEY in January 1963 (p. 75).

Sometime shortly before or after FITZGERALD's takeover, a plan was devised to have JAMES DONOVAN, who was negotiating with CASTRO for the release of the BAY OF PIGS prisoners, to "present a contaminated skin-diving suit to CASTRO as a gift." (75). According to SIDNEY GOTTLIEB (TSD), "this scheme progressed to the point of actually buying a diving suit and readying it for delivery. The technique involves dusting the inside of the suit with a fungus that would produce a disfiguring and chronic skin disease (Madura Foot) and con-

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PERSONS/ENTITIES:

Holms, Richard

DATES:

1961-62

CATEGORIES:

Castro ✓

OCCURRENCE:

Holms testified that it was his understanding that he was "to get rid of Castro". He then stated there were no limitations put on the means and that he understood that murder was an acceptable means (85). He evidently drew this conclusion from the fact he was never "instructed not to do some specific thing with respect to the instruction to get rid of Castro." (86) "I was simply trying to get across the fact that nobody ever told me that raids and providing guns and putting in people and get rid of the whole operations of Castro was perfectly legitimate way. In fact, I understand it was." (86) When asked why he understood assassination was a permissible method of getting rid of Castro he said "because I was asked to get rid of him." (87)

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(Comment: Holms implies that the CIA was free to use any

SOURCE:

denied to it in order to carry out policy directives.)

STAFF:

Rhea

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30 NOV 93

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PERSONS/ENTITIES:

Colby Maheu Trafficante
Castro Rosselli
Bissell RPK
Edwards Giancana

DATES:

3-60
8-60
9/14/60

CATEGORIES:

Castro ✓

OCCURRENCE:

Colby testified that documentation indicates that: Castro assassination efforts began about March '60. In Aug. '60 Bissell asked Edwards to locate asset to perform gangster-type operation. Edwards contacted Maheu who contacted John Rosselli on 9/14/60. Rosselli then put Maheu in touch with Giancana and Trafficante, although RPK not told at time. Maheu authorized to offer \$150,000 for assassination of Castro. (Tr. 21-28)

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SOURCE:

Testimony of Wm. Colby, 5/23/75

STAFF:

John Bayly

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2-2-94

PERSONS/ENTITIES:

Cubella
Fitzgerald
Harvey
Artimo

DATES:

4-1
10-19
11-22-63
2-64
(2-66)

CATEGORIES:

Castro ✓
ZR Rifle

OCCURRENCE:

Breckinridge testified that Orlando Cubella, disaffected Cuban major, talked with Harvey's (perhaps) successor Fitzgerald about obtaining arms. On 11-22-63, Cubella offered ball point pen usable as a poison syringe in Paris, France. He refused it. In Feb. '64 ('65?), Cubella given weapon by Cuban refugee in Madrid (Artimo?) after arms catches put down off Cuban Coast: (Tr. 74, 75, 76, 77, & 78)

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SOURCE:

Testimony of Wm. Colby, 5/23/75

STAFF:

John Rayly

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2-1-98

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<u>PERSONS/ENTITIES:</u>	<u>DATES:</u>	<u>CATEGORIES:</u>
Malpern Fitzgerald BISSELL	1963, <i>Feb</i>	Castro ✓

OCCURRENCE:

Malpern testified that one morning in 1963 Fitzgerald came into his office with a book on seashells. He said that he had an idea that if the CIA could develop an exotic looking shell Castro, who ~~had known to be~~ a skin diver, might dive for the shell which could be rigged to explode (25). Malpern testified that he felt the idea had no merit and told that to Fitzgerald. Despite Malpern's objections, Fitzgerald asked him to check it out with technical division, which Malpern did. So far as he knows, nothing ever came of the idea (27). So far as Malpern knew, authorization of the project ~~stem~~ from the initial directive ~~from Fitzgerald~~ to come up with some ideas (28).

(from Dissall 7)

stemmed

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Malpern 6/18/75

STAFF:

Wien

DATE:

7/1/75

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30 Nov 73

PERSONS/ENTITIES:

AMLASH
[REDACTED]

DATES:

March 9, 1961

CATEGORIES:

CASTRO ✓
1 of 2

OCCURRENCE:

[REDACTED] an officer assigned to the Mexico City station, met in Mexico City with a high officer in the Cuban armed forces who was subsequently to become a CIA asset known as A.M. LASH-1. [REDACTED] met with A.M. LASH to sound out his views on the Cuban situation. A.M. LASH was in Mexico City to attend a "leftist-sponsored" conference. (78).

The March 1961 meeting was inconclusive, but it led to other meetings out of which Project A.M. LASH was created. A.M. LASH-1 "repeatedly insisted that the essential first step in overthrowing the regime was the elimination of CASTRO himself, which /A.M. LASH-1/ claimed he was prepared to accomplish. He repeatedly requested that we /CIA/ furnish him the special equipment or material needed to do the job." (79).

The IG REPORT concludes that: "The Agency offered both direct and indirect support for /A.M. LASH-1/ (who) [REDACTED] (on next card)"

SOURCE:

IG REPORT, 1967

STAFF:

Baron

DATE: 7/2/75

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OTHERWISE
2-2-77

PERSONS/ENTITIES:

Samuel HALPERN
AMLAH
Dr. Edward GUNN

DATES:

Nov. 20, 1963

CATEGORIES:

Castro ✓

OCCURRENCE:

██████ reported that although AMLAH had wanted "a high-powered, silenced rifle with an effective range of hundreds or thousands of yards," (92) he decided finally that he knew, as a Doctor of Medicine, that "we could devise some technical means of doing the job that would not automatically cause him to lose his own life in the try." (92)

Samuel HALPERN and ██████ requested assistance from Dr. Edward GUNN of the CIA Office of Medical Services. (92) On Nov. 20, 1963, they told GUNN that "the device for administering the poison (a ball point pen rigged as a hypodermic syringe) had to be ready in time for ██████ to catch a plane at noon the next day." (93) The next day GUNN delivered to ██████ a pen capable of injecting a poisonous insecticide known as "black leaf 40". (92-93)

SOURCE:

1G REPORT 19

FILE:

STAFF:

F Baron

DATE:

7/1/75

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18 NOV 93

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PERSONS/ENTITIES:	DATES:	CATEGORIES:
TSD [REDACTED] ESTERLINE, Jake	March-July 60	CUBA (Misc. Schemes)

OCCURRENCE:

Aerosol attack on radio station: A scheme was discussed at CIA to "contaminate the air of the radio station where CASTRO broadcast his speeches with an aerosol spray of a chemical that produces reactions similar to those of Lysergic Acid (LSD)." (10) "Nothing came of the idea." (10) [REDACTED] of TSD, remembers the discussion and discouraged the scheme "because the chemical could not be relied upon to be effective." (10) Others who may be knowledgeable: 1. [REDACTED] (TSD) recalls general experimentation with psychic energizers.

2. Jake Esterline.

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SOURCE: IG Report, 1967STAFF: Baron
7/3/75

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PERSONS/ENTITIES:

~~CASTRO, Fidel~~

DATES:

March-July
1960

CATEGORIES:

CUBA
(Miscellaneous Schemes)

OCCURRENCE:

Depilatory: A chemical depilatory (Thallium Salts) was procured and tested for surreptitious use on CASTRO. The plan was to "dust Thallium powder into CASTRO's shoes when they were put out at night to be shined" (13) on a trip outside CUBA; the powder would be absorbed into his skin causing his beard to fall out and thereby destroying CASTRO's image. (13).

recalls this scheme; recalls something about Thallium Salts.

SOURCE: IG REPORT, 1967

STAFF: Baron

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DATE: 7/3/75

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PERSONS/ENTITIES:

Esterline, Jake
GOTTLIB, Sidney
TSD
BISSELM, Richard

DATES:

March-July
1960

CATEGORIES:

Cuba
(Contaminated Cigars)

OCCURRENCE: A box of cigars, treated with a chemical intended to produce temp. personality disorientation, was prepared by CIA for use by CASTRO. ESTERLINE said that he had this box of cigars in his personal safe until he left WH/r in June, 61, at which time he destroyed them.

The plan was "to have CASTRO smoke one before making a speech and then to make a public spectacle of himself." (11)

GOTTLIB, of TSD remembers a cigar plot as "being concerned with killing not merely with influencing behavior." (12)

GOTTLIB is certain that he did not get the DD/P's (BISSELL) personal approval to release them

SOURCE: IG Report, 1967

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STAFF: Baron

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30 NOV '13

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<u>PERSONS/ENTITIES:</u>	<u>DATES:</u>	<u>CATEGORIES:</u>
BISSELL, Richard MAFIA	Sept. - Oct. 1960	CUBA ✓

OCCURRENCE:

BISSELL is informed that the MAFIA had been given the go-ahead to proceed with the actual assassination of CASTRO (pp. 20-21).

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SOURCE: BISSELL TESTIMONY

STAFF: Baron

DATE: 7/3/73